THE RADIANT GALAXY

Grace S. Taboada

Colonel Bleep
and the Uncharted Earth

The Quest to Revive a Forgotten Classic

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Adapted from *Colonel Bleep* by Robert D. Buchanan and Jack Schleh

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Post-war America saw a small but determined studio in animated programming, playing a significant role in the burgeoning television industry and the igniting space race.

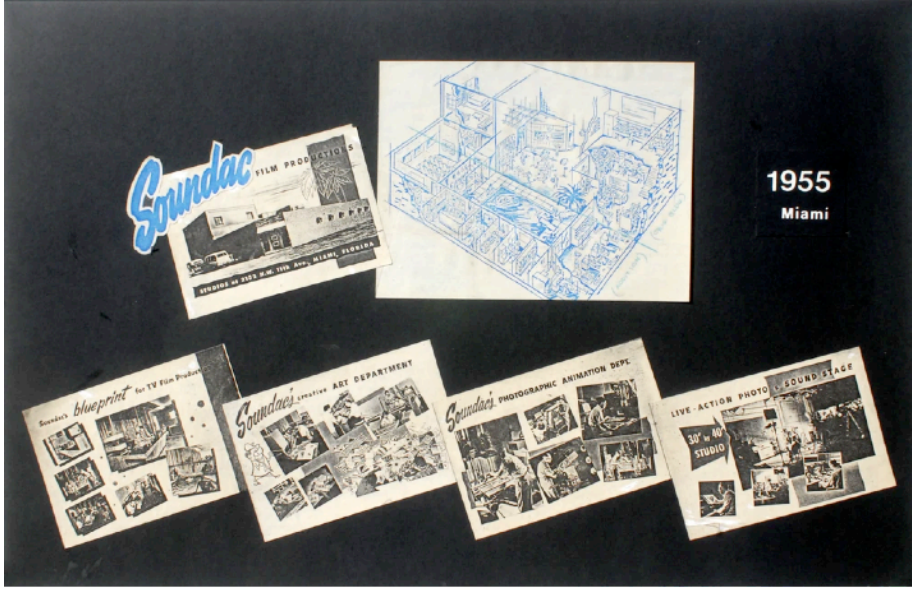
SOUNDAC: THE STUDIO OF THE MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY

In 1951, musician and actor Bobby Nicholson founded Soundac, a small animation studio in Buffalo, New York. He was the company's first president.

Later, Nicholson left Soundac to focus more on acting and music and was replaced as the studio's second president by Robert D. Buchanan. By 1956, Soundac had moved to Miami, Florida, and purchased a warehouse for its new location.

Like other animation studios, Soundac included separate rooms for artists and office workers, a sound recording room, and a screening room. But what stood out the most was that the building's center also included a swimming pool, allowing all workers to enjoy some luxurious pleasure during business hours.

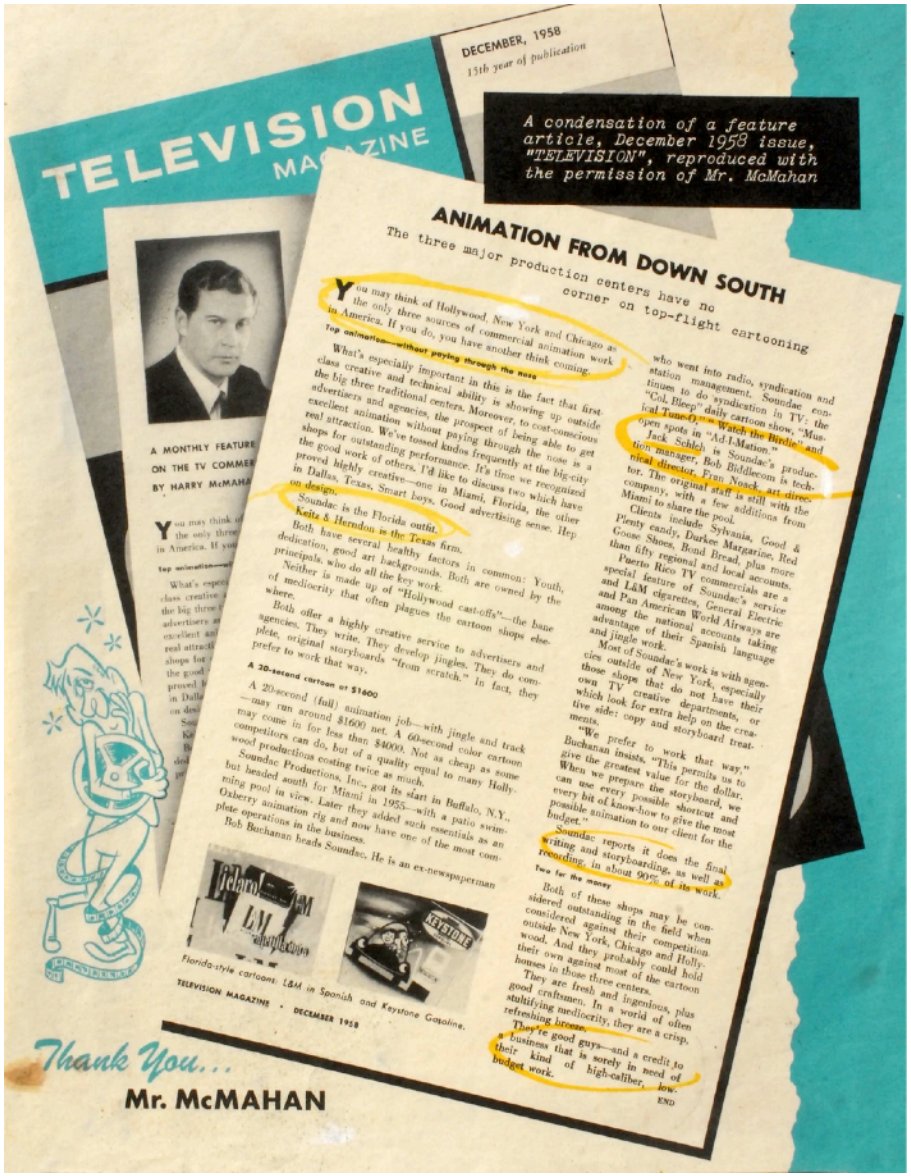
In its humble beginnings, numerous animators joined the studio to help with animated commercials, vibrant TV idents, and map services (formally named Info-Maps), just in time to create intriguing programs in an awkward but growing era for television in the 1950s.



1955: Soundac Panel (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

1950s - 60s
Soundac presents... "THE BIRTH OF A SALESMAN"
Over 10,000 animated film segments for TV
TV-COMS WERE US!
YA-HOOOO... MOUNTAIN DEW!

1950s - 60s: TV-COMS WERE US! (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)


TELEVISION
MAGAZINE
DECEMBER, 1958
15th year of publication
A condensation of a feature article, December 1958 issue, "TELEVISION", reproduced with the permission of Mr. McMahan
ANIMATION FROM DOWN SOUTH
The three major production centers have no corner on top-flight cartooning
Thank You...
Mr. McMAHAN

"Animation from Down South", a *Television Magazine* Article (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

another Soundac first!
TWO-SECOND
Channel-BOOSTER ID's
TWO SECONDS OF SOLID SELL.....WHERE EVERY SECOND COUNTS.....DESIGNED TO GIVE 2-sec STATION BREAKS ADDED IMPACT!
Not Stills... not Slides... but ANIMATED ACTION!
★ 12 ANIMATED 2-sec Station-channel ID'S
★ TAILORED to YOUR CHANNEL & STATION
EXCLUSIVE USE in YOUR CITY!
SOLD on OUTRIGHT PURCHASE!
Complete Package Your City, Only...
Write, wire or phone for FREE AUDITION!
ASK ABOUT SOUNDAC'S
"SHO-STARTERS" • "ABSTRACT-ID'S" • "BLAST-OFF ID'S"
"SPORTS ID'S" • PROGRAM-PROMO ID'S" • "SUPER-FEX"
For the Best Buys in Station Services it's...
SOUNDAC TV productions, inc.
P. O. BOX 52-605 MIAMI, FLORIDA • Phone FRanklin 4-2655

Channel Booster IDs Flyer (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

Of course, Buchanan and the rest of the staff could do more than produce commercials; they also planned to create numerous TV shows. And this was thanks to its most prominent animators, Patricia Dick, George Ghyssels, Frank Noack, Hal Lockwood, and the most notable of all, Clarence M. "Jack" Schleh Jr.

As a start, Soundac produced their first TV series titled *Dollar Derby* in 1952, an auction show where participants bid with paper money. Later, they helped produce another (initially produced on radio in the 40s) titled *Musical Tune-O*, a music-themed game show similar to Bingo. Their next production would be *Watch the Birdie* in 1955, Soundac's first game show targeted to children featuring a wacky buck-teeth bird from a cuckoo clock.

Soundac also produced *The Weather Man* in 1957, a series of abstract weather reports animated by artists Hal Lockwood and Frank Noack. The idents featured a triangular bespectacled character and a weather vane, ever alert to reveal the latest weather news. A catchy theme song is played at the beginning of each report.

As Soundac's popularity grew, the studio was hired to create commercials and formal reports for Seattle's 1962 World Fair, the Century 21 Exposition.

1956: Watch the Birdie Panel (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

CENTURY 21 EXPO
SOUNDAC WORLD FAIR PROMO CONCEPT CHOSEN OVER ALL CALIFORNIA STUDIO ENTREES!
Soundac prestige hits new peak! Wins new respect in LA!
Soundac SPOT CHECK
WORLD'S FAIR FILMS at COUNTY FAIR PRICES!!
Soundac PRODUCTIONS Inc.

Century 21 Panel (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

1961: “Super-Fex” Panel

(Owned by Scott Schleh.
Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

1960: Info-Maps Panel

(Owned by Scott Schleh.
Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

By 1963, Soundac was surprisingly endorsed by the White House by John F. Kennedy, who comissioned Soundac to create *Mighty Mister Titan,* a 100-episode series in which the titular character and his sidekick Tipso would teach kids to develop a habit in exercising and living a healthy lifestyle.

Unfortunately, the show turned out to be unsuccessful as it was quickly cancelled after JFK's assassination on November 23, 1963. Nevertheless, Soundac moved on to make more productions, even if the studio was approaching its downfall.

In 1969, Soundac produced an educational film for Jamaica titled Decimal Currency '69. The film features a cheerful dollar bill, which informs citizens about the transition from British pounds, shillings, and pence to Jamaican dollars and cents, especially since Jamaica adopted a new economic system after its independence in 1962.

Around the 1970s, Soundac was in financial decline and would soon close down, leaving it forgotten for decades. However, the studio would have been entirely disregarded if it hadn't been for one other production that truly shaped its legacy for the better.

Mighty Mister Titan promotional poster full spread (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

1969: Carribean and Dollar Bill Panel(Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

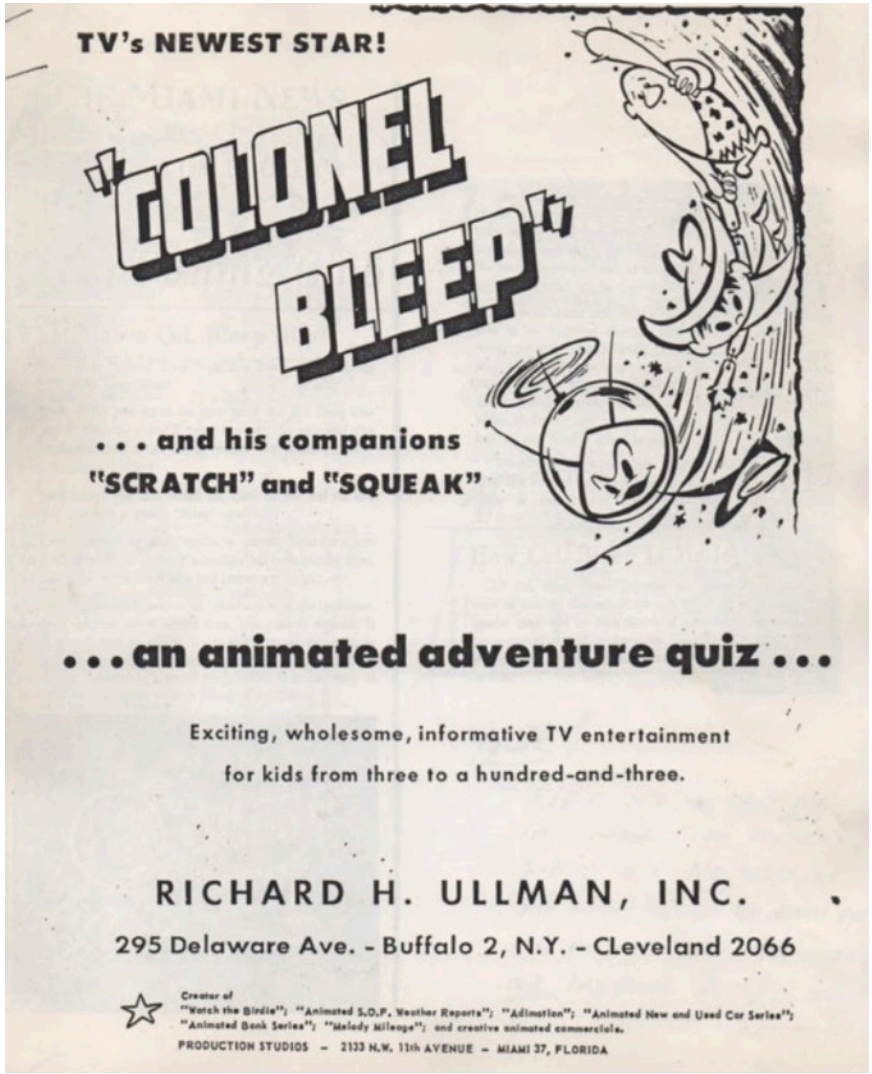
1959 Flyer Panel (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

During Soundac's most significant moments, the studio would produce an animated series that changed the course of color television. Yet, they are unaware that their most incredible creation would have an unusual future.

A TV STAR IS BORN

In 1955, the first space race had just started anew. Scientists and engineers from the United States and the former Soviet Union were competing against each other by building space probes before they could send space rangers to explore the moon and other planets in the Solar System.

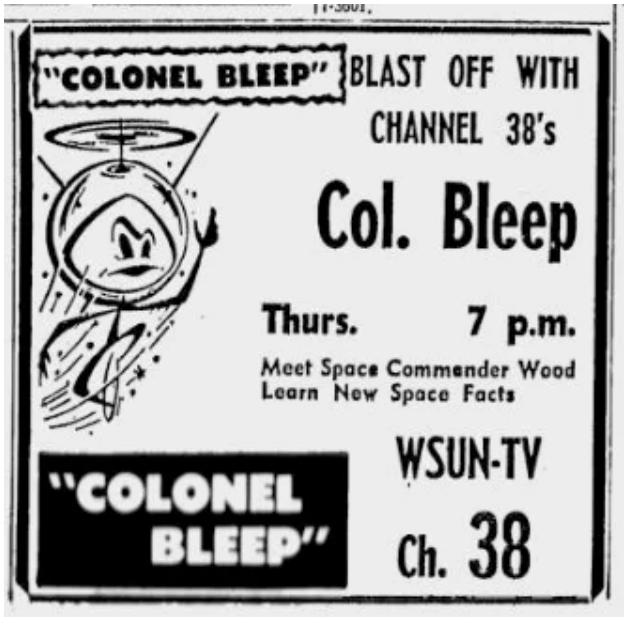
As Robert D. Buchanan and its most prominent artist and animation director, Jack Schleh, were fascinated by a new era for space exploration, the two agreed to develop their first animated series depicting what would become the Golden Space Age.


TV's NEWEST STAR!
"COLONEL BLEEP"
. . . and his companions
"SCRATCH" and "SQUEAK"
. . . an animated adventure quiz . . .
Exciting, wholesome, informative TV entertainment
for kids from three to a hundred-and-three.
RICHARD H. ULLMAN, INC.
295 Delaware Ave. - Buffalo 2, N.Y. - CLeveland 2066
PRODUCTION STUDIOS - 2133 N.W. 11th AVENUE - MIAMI 37, FLORIDA

Cover to the original Colonel Bleep pitch (circa 1956)

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT 15379
Merrill K. Markoe
is a fully accredited member of the
Col. Bleep Interplanetary Space Command
and is entitled to enjoy the rights and privileges of the rank of
SPACE DEPUTY
Col. Bleep INTERPLANETARY SPACE COMMANDER
SPACE STATION WPST-TV CHANNEL 10
JIM DOOLEY, Captain
SEAL

WPST-TV (Channel 10) Space Deputy Card (c. 1957 by an unknown designer)



WSUN-TV (Channel 38) Advertisement (c. 1958 by an unknown designer)

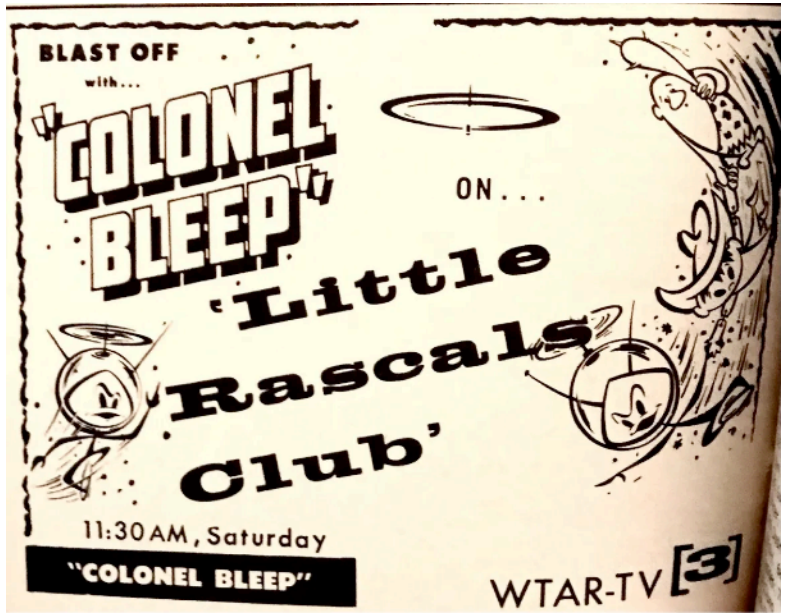
In 1956, Soundac, which had moved to Miami, Florida, produced a children's quiz series broadcast on weekdays. It was a game show for youngsters and included many short cartoon adventures. Thus, it was titled *The Adventures of Colonel Bleep*, later shortened to *Colonel Bleep*.

Before it could air on television, Soundac created a test pilot that depicted a show host promoting the quiz along with one cartoon short. The pilot featured quizzes and riddles that children could solve via telephone calls and win prizes when they solved them correctly. The pilot also included a peanut gallery for the seated children participating. The pilot was a hit (despite not airing on stations, but approved by them), and the show began its original air run in black-and-white from 1957 to 1960 with 100 episodes (against the creator's wishes, as they only wanted to produce fifty-two). It was syndicated on weekday television with a local show host (depending on the city) promoting *Colonel Bleep*.

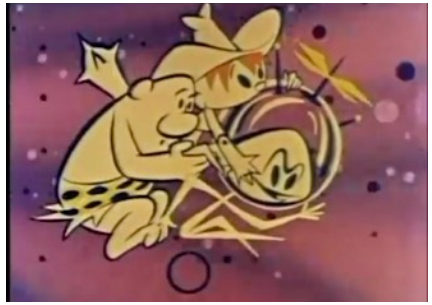
1. Red Goose Space Cadet Card (c. 1957 by an unknown designer)

2. Zeeman's Toyshop Flyer (c. 1957 by an unknown designer)

3. "Blast off with Colonel Bleep on Little Rascals Club" Advertisement (c. 1957 by an unknown designer)



4. KMOX-TV (Channel 4) Advertisement (c. 1957 by an unknown designer)



In context, the cartoons revolve around the titular Colonel Bleep, an intelligent space ranger from the distant world of Futura. As part of the planet's space force, the Futura High Command, Bleep's job is to investigate and confront any disturbances plaguing all directions across the universe, including planets like Earth. While starting his headquarters in our world, the colonel will encounter two strange but faithful companions throughout his adventures. First, he'll meet Squeak, a former stage actor and lively marionette of the present with an intense sense of curiosity dressed like a cowboy from the Westerns of the 50s. Second, he'll encounter Scratch, a troglodyte hibernating in the Stone Age until the first nuclear explosion caused strange cosmic effects. The blast caused Scratch to transport countless centuries into the future. With Bleep alarmed by the atomic blasts, he commissions Squeak and Scratch as his deputies, and the three agree to help better understand Earth and the rest of the universe, along with protecting it from malevolent powers.

Unlike most notable animated works, where the animation is typically smoother and more fluid, the animation for the series was heavily limited. The series featured choppy movements and recycled frames due to tight budget restrictions. What *Colonel Bleep* lacked in high-quality animation, however, it made up for with its vibrant Mid-century Modern art style and Raygun Gothic aesthetic for its backgrounds and character designs.

From 1967 to around 1971 when color for TV was becoming more prominent and affordable, Colonel Bleep was brought back on reruns and labeled the first animated series produced in living color. However, the show was forgotten because it was overshadowed by more popular cartoons (taking those from animation studios like Hanna-Barbera, Filmation, and Rankin-Bass, for example).

During Soundac's closure, the show, its reels, and other content were lost in an unconfirmed incident. In an urban legend, most of its equipment, film reels, and art were stored in a van during Soundac's closure. Car thieves soon stole the vehicle, which has never been found since, along with the supplies. Colonel Bleep remains forgotten even after it fell into the Public Domain in 1985 (due to a copyright lapse). By 1991, however, something extraordinary would occur when all hope for re-recognition seemed to have gone away.

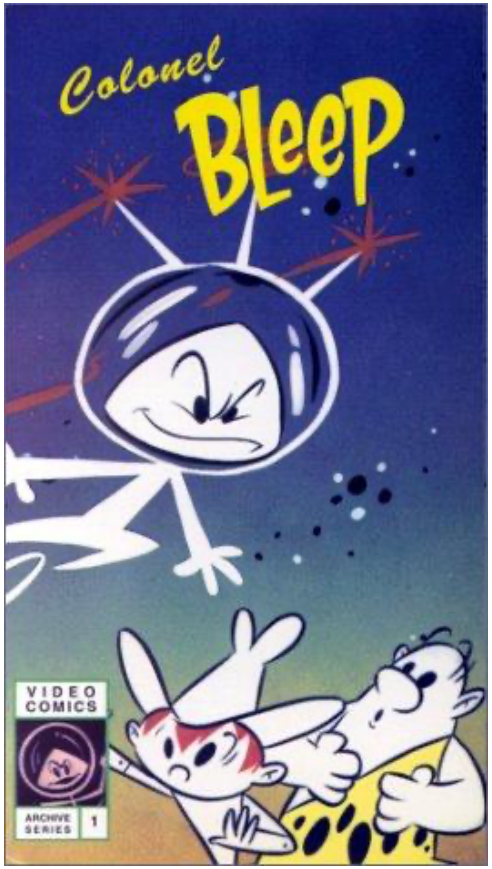
1957: Colonel Bleep Panel (Owned by Scott Schleh. Scanned by Schleh in 2024.)

Having stumbled upon the forgotten childhood gem that sparked nostalgic joy, a soon-to-be animation historian would uncover the obscure adventures of Colonel Bleep.

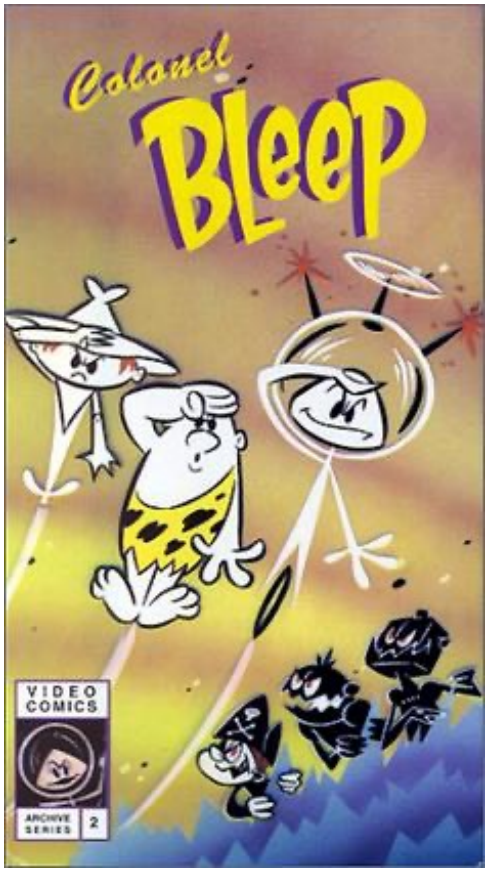
THE SEARCH FOR THE LONG LOST SPACE ACE

In 1986, Jerry Beck and John Kricfalusi, two college students, hosted cartoon parties, inviting friends to watch vintage cartoons together. At one party, Kricfalusi suggested watching cartoons that had faded into obscurity and been forgotten for over thirty years. Beck agreed with the plan and brought in some film reels of Colonel Bleep from a film distribution company, Reel Media International, considering he vaguely remembered the series as a child. The guests received positive feedback and praised the cartoons for their art style.

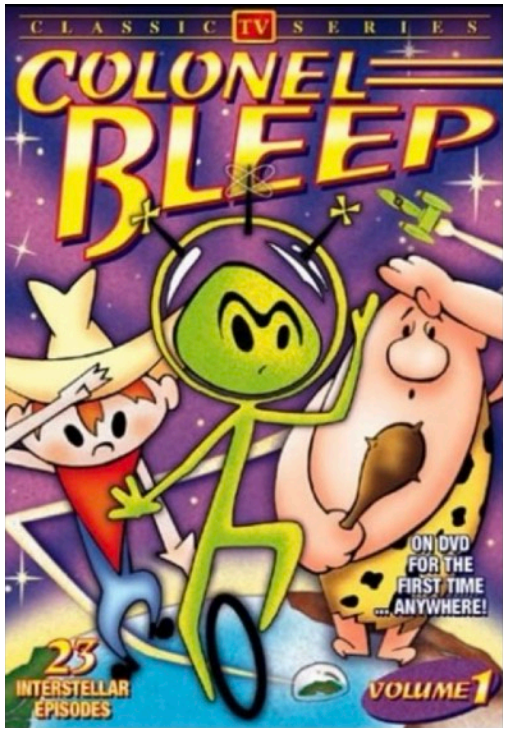
Two years later, Beck, Fred Patten, and Carl Mackek founded Streamline Productions, a video distribution company that produced and marketed anime movies on video cassettes in the United States. However, they also released obscure cartoons, and *Colonel Bleep* was no exception. Two volumes of the series were released in 1991, one with six episodes and another with eight. In 1993, a compilation film titled *Speed Racer: The Movie* (aka *The Speed Racer Show), with* one episode titled *The Treacherous Pirate,* snuck into the film and is the first episode restored in a high-quality format.



Colonel Bleep Volume 1 (Cover by Mike Kazaleh, 1991)



Colonel Bleep Volume 2 (Cover by Mike Kazaleh, 1991)



Colonel Bleep Volume 1 Alpha Video Cover Print (2005, Unknown Artist)

Print Image by Patrick Owsley for East-West DVD (circa 2008)

Thanks to Streamline, this would spark a new generation for the series in which numerous people set off to restore as many episodes as possible. *Colonel Bleep* was introduced to public-domain cartoon collections on VHS and DVD in 2000.

In 2005, another video distribution company, Alpha Video, released twenty more episodes on DVD. In 2019, an archivist, Ron Kurer, discovered nine more episodes of *Colonel Bleep* and released them on his YouTube channel, ToonTracker. In 2023, Multicom Entertainment Co. restored another episode, The Malicious Mailman, and released it on the streaming platform The Archive (not to be confused with the Internet Archive). As of 2025, forty-five out of the 100 episodes of *Colonel Bleep* have been brought back into the light.

The following episodes have been restored; hopefully, many more will be found.

The Streamline Episodes (1991)

1. Col. Bleep's Arrival on Earth

2. Scratch and His Feathered Friend

3. The Lunar Luger

4. The Killer Whale

5. The Firebomb

6. The Pirate Plot

7. The Bat and the Bottle

8. The Wicked Web

9. The Evil Eye

10. Fire Water

11. Tunnel in Space

12.The Treacherous Trio

13. Knight of Death

14. The Hypnotic Helmets

The Alpha Video Episodes (2005)

1. Scratch and the Sea Serpent
2. Building an Island Base
3. The Earth from Outer Space
4. The Uncharted Island
5. Squeak and the Terrible Termite
6. The Runaway Rocket
7. Manhunt on the Moon
8. The Greedy Gorilla
9. Shadows of Suspicion
10. The Prehistoric Present
11. War in Robot Land
12. Nightmare
13. Satellite of Death
14. Dangerous Holiday
15. The Ingenious Invention
16. The Invisible Gorilla
17. The Treacherous Pirate
18. Exposed
19. Danger Below
20. The Ghastly Ghost
22. Test of Friendship

The Toontracker Episodes (2019)

1. The Magnetic Menace
2. The Falling Star
3. The Relentless Rain
4. A Windy Knight
5. Ice Demons Attack
6. The Rusty Robots
7. Space Station X-1
8. Ball of Fire
9. Winner Take All

Other Episodes

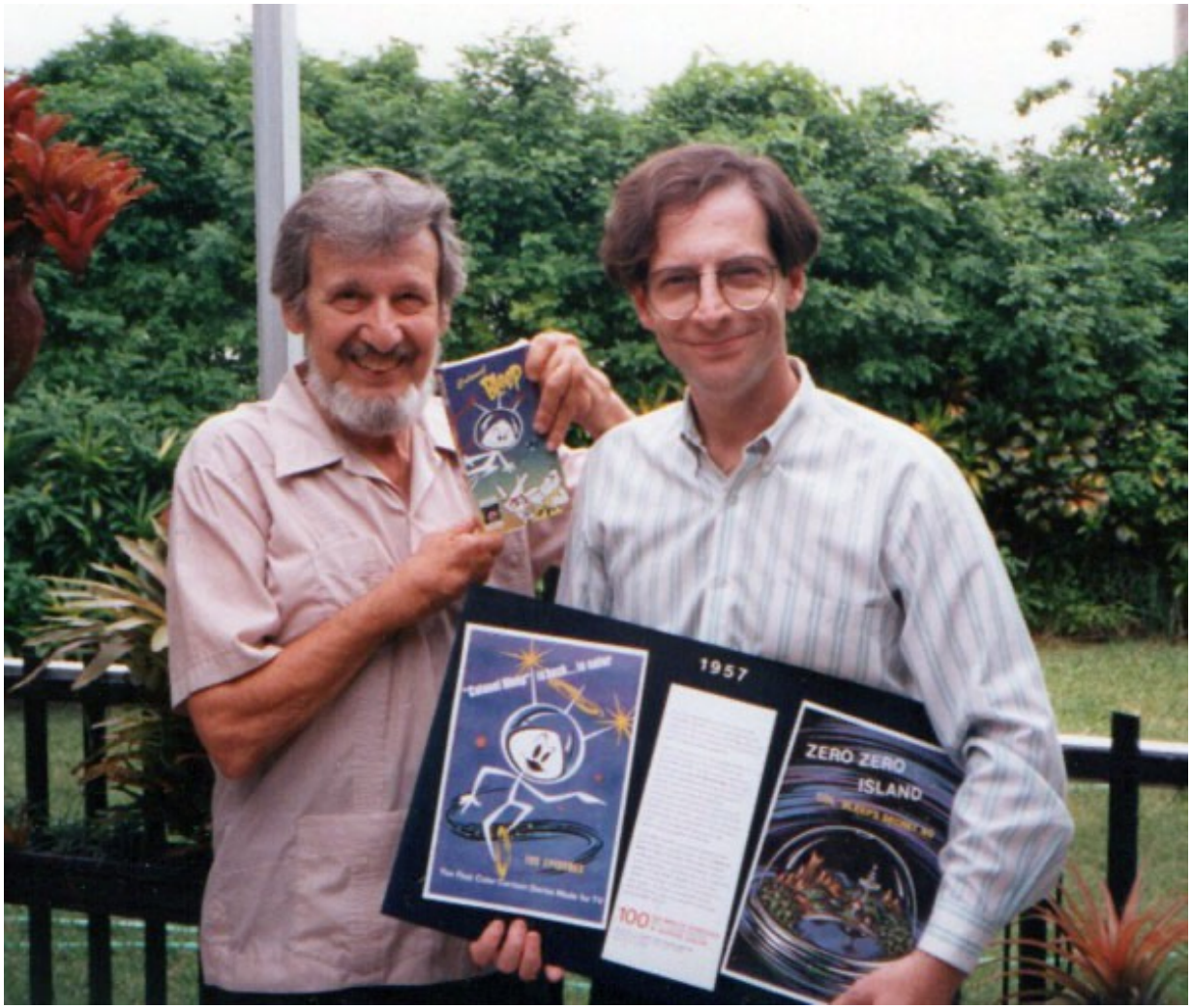
1. The Treacherous Pirate

   (Released by Streamline Pictures in the compilation Film The Speed Racer Show or Speed Racer: The Movie in 1993)

2. The Malicious Mailman

   (Released by Multicom Entertainment Inc. in 2023)

Jack Schleh (left) and Jerry Beck (right), two guys that started it all in different times (Circa 1991, Photographer is Unknown)



The journey to revive something obscure can be daunting and exhilarating as it is believed that Colonel Bleep has the potential to be redefined in a contemporary light.

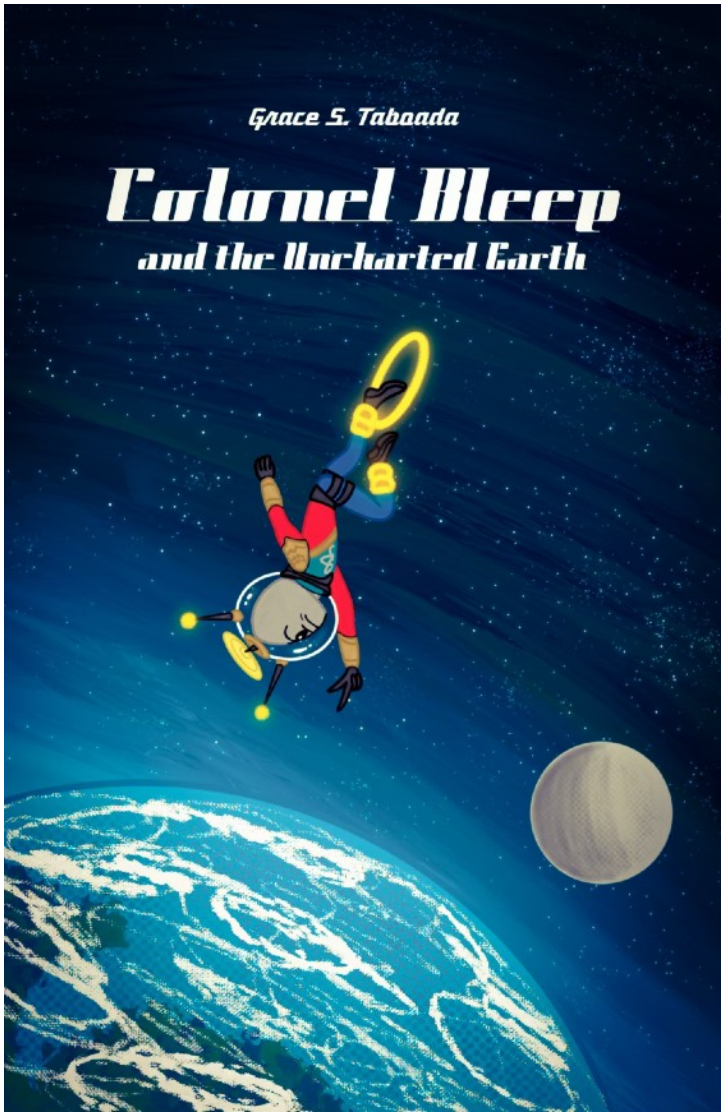
A NEW AGE FOR COLONEL BLEEP

Although *Colonel Bleep* is not entirely lost, the show still barely gets any recognition, even if it has some historical impact.

When I discovered the series in the fall of 2021, it inspired me to recreate *Colonel Bleep* in a more vibrant and fresh perspective for modern audiences.

Recognizing the show's overlooked legacy, I felt an unexpected urge to breathe new life into Colonel Bleep's character and stories. Thus, *Colonel Bleep and the Uncharted Earth* was born.

At the beginning of 2022, I developed a story depicting the origins of the titular character and his deputies and redesigned the characters and backgrounds for a proposed novel. However, I was highly unsuccessful in promoting the book on social media because I never actually published it (even though most of it was complete). Over time, I became more hesitant about publishing the novel and uncertain of its future, so I believed it was best to put it aside and move on to more critical responsibilities, such as getting good grades in college and building a strong portfolio for my arts major.



Original Novel Cover (2023, Made in Procreate)

While studying animation, I created a character test for Colonel Bleep and worked on a short film featuring Bleep and his twisted origin story (where you can find a script of the pilot in the next chapter). Then, a new idea sparked in my mind: making Uncharted Earth an indie animated series instead of a novel would be better.

After countless hours of drawing model sheets, sequential art, storyboards, and animated clips, this will be the key to introducing *Colonel Bleep* to the modern world while also paying tribute to what it was in the past.

Regarding the series, *Colonel Bleep and the Uncharted Earth* will last ten episodes. They will foretell the titular character's journey to Earth to study nuclear from 1945 to 1957, along with the recent launch of Sputnik 1.

Along the adventure, he will encounter his soon-to-be loyal deputies, Squeak and Scratch, who will still have personalities similar to their initial counterparts but more fleshed-out backstories. Of course, Bleep and his friends will face incredible danger when tracked by the vicious sorcerer and arch-criminal Dr. Destructo.

As much as I wish to explain more of the story, I cannot due to crucial spoilers. However, in the next segment of this book, I will continue to demonstrate my development for the modern *Colonel Bleep* with an extensive concept art gallery.

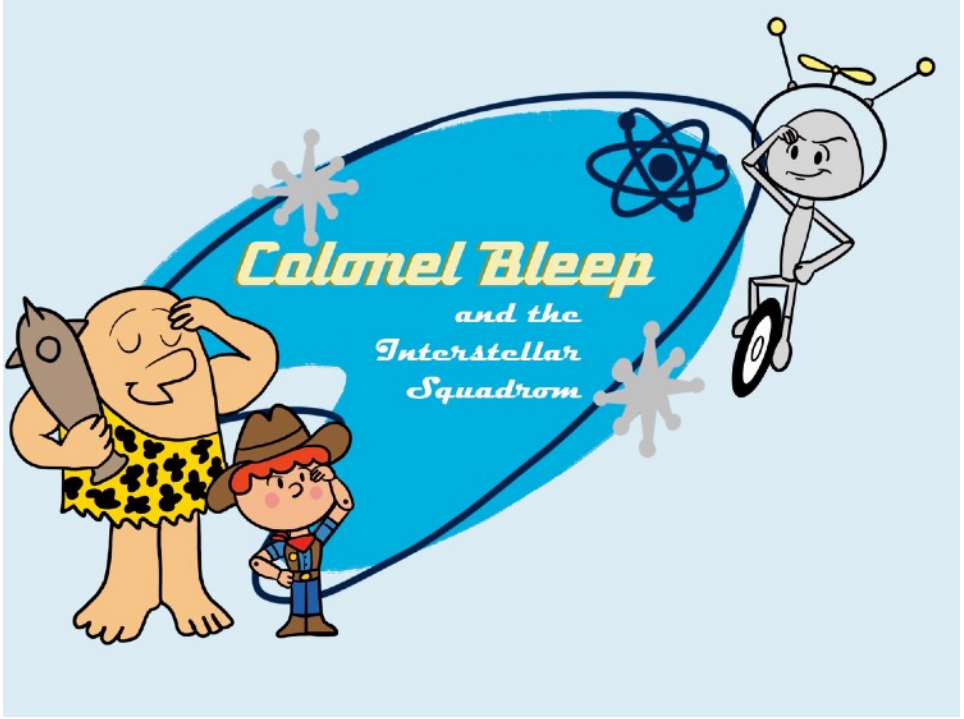
1. Colonel Bleep and his Deputies (2022, Made in Procreate)

2. Classic Bleep Poster (2022, Made in Procreate)

3. CB Comic Book Cover (2022, Made with Alcoholic Markers)

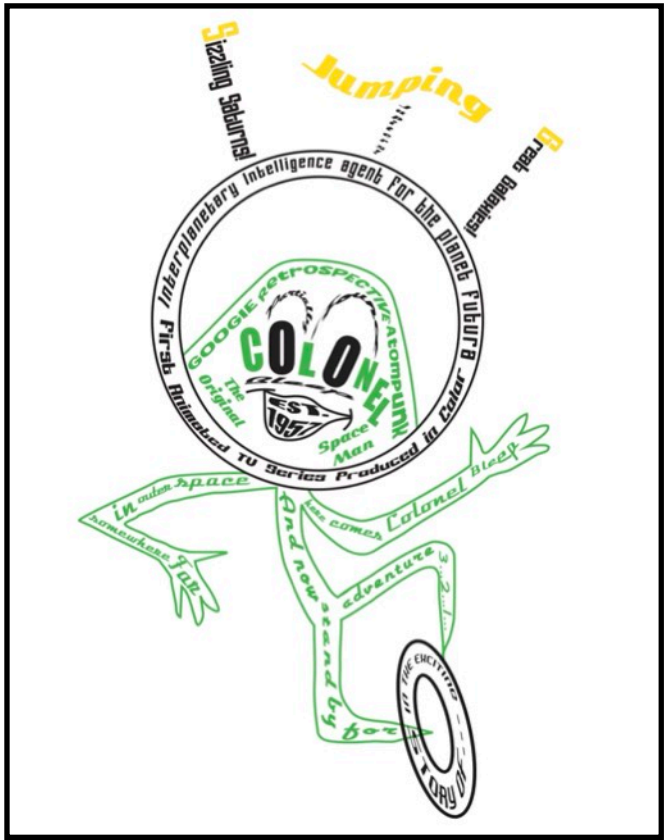
4. Jellyfish Bleep (2022, Made in Procreate)

5. What if Hanna-Barbera revived Colonel Bleep? (2022, Made in Procreate)



6. Classic Bleep Poster 2 (2022, Made in Procreate)

7. Colonel Bleep Typography (2022, Made in Adobe Photoshop)



8. The Future is Now Postcard (2022, Made with Alcoholic Markers)

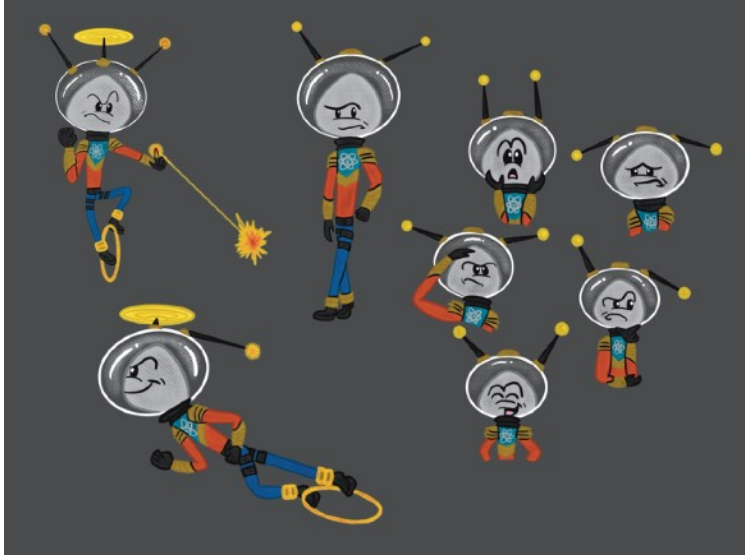
In the spring of 2022, it all started with just making fan art of the three main characters (mostly Colonel Bleep). Five images (1, 2, 4, 5, and 6) were made for fun, while the others (3, 7, and 8) were made for class assignments before I started college.

At that time, I wondered what it would be like if Colonel Bleep was given a chance to be remade for the contemporary age in art and animation. So, it dawned on me to create some redesigns of the four leading characters, including the main antagonist, Dr. Destructo.

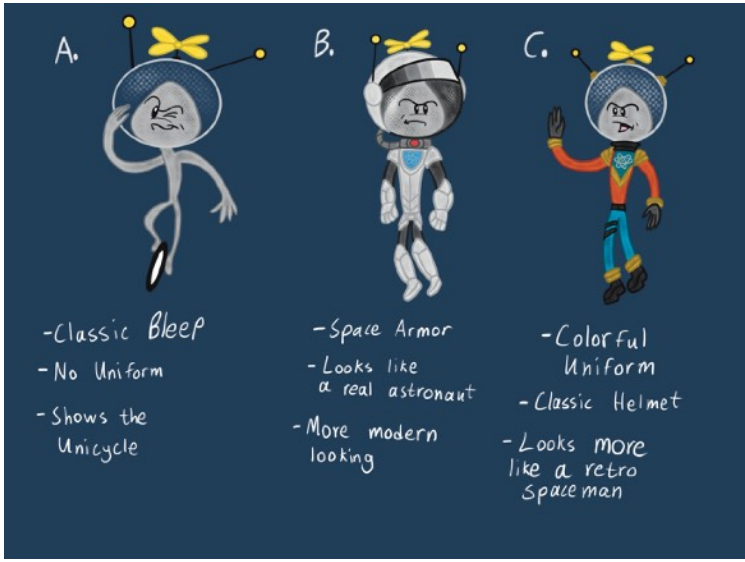
Initially, Bleep would have resembled his older counterpart closely, but I didn't feel like making him a complete copy of his predecessor. I moved away from his original stick bug appearance with four limbs, a unicycle, and a helmet. Instead, the colonel would wear a retro space uniform and have a more robust and athletic build. This new design drew inspiration from classic sci-fi comics and TV shows like *Fireball XL5*, *Star Trek*, *Lost in Space*, *Buck Rodgers*, *Space Patrol (1950)*, and *Tom Corbett: Space Cadet*.

I have also included designs where I introduce Bleep as a young space cadet under his formal name, Lucius Morningstar. While he appears to be highly smart and determined and ready to achieve his dreams as a spaceman, Cadet Morningstar also starts as overconfident and unaware that his job will be much more dangerous and challenging than initially imagined, especially on his first day in the Futura High Command Academy.

Colonel Bleep's Age Chart (2022, Made in Procreate)



Colonel Bleep's Facial Expressions and Poses (2022, Made in Procreate)

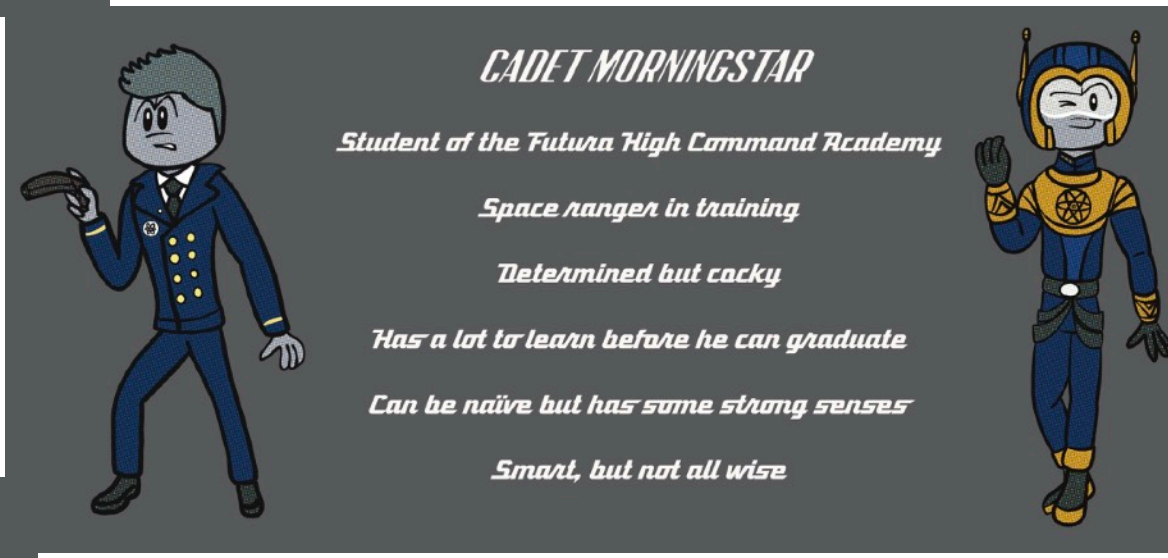


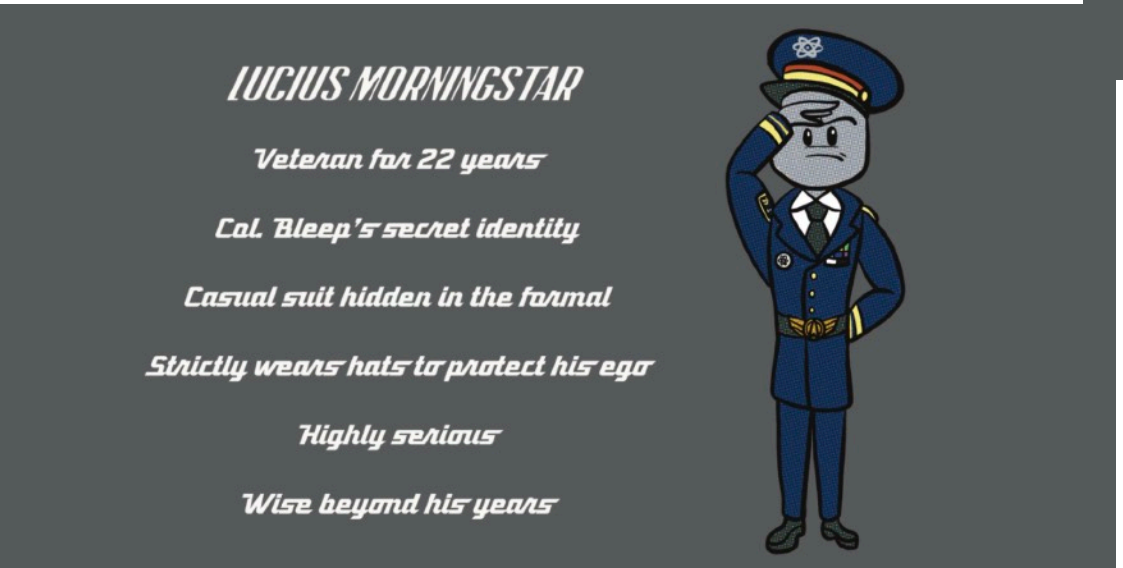
Colonel Bleep's Design Choices (2022, Made in Procreate)

COLONEL BLEEP
Bright, brave, and benevalent
Harnesses futomic energy
Genetic enhancements
Can fight with many other weapons
Flies with the gyro blades and self cycler
Master of military combat

Colonel Bleep Description Sheet (2023, Made in Procreate)

Cadet Morningstar Description Sheet (2023, Made in Procreate)


CADET MORNINGSTAR
Student of the Futura High Command Academy
Space ranger in training
Determined but cocky
Has a lot to learn before he can graduate
Can be naïve but has some strong senses
Smart, but not all wise


LUCIUS MORNINGSTAR
Veteran for 22 years
Col. Bleep's secret identity
Casual suit hidden in the formal
Strictly wears hats to protect his ego
Highly serious
Wise beyond his years

Lucius Morningstar Description Sheet (2023, Made in Procreate)

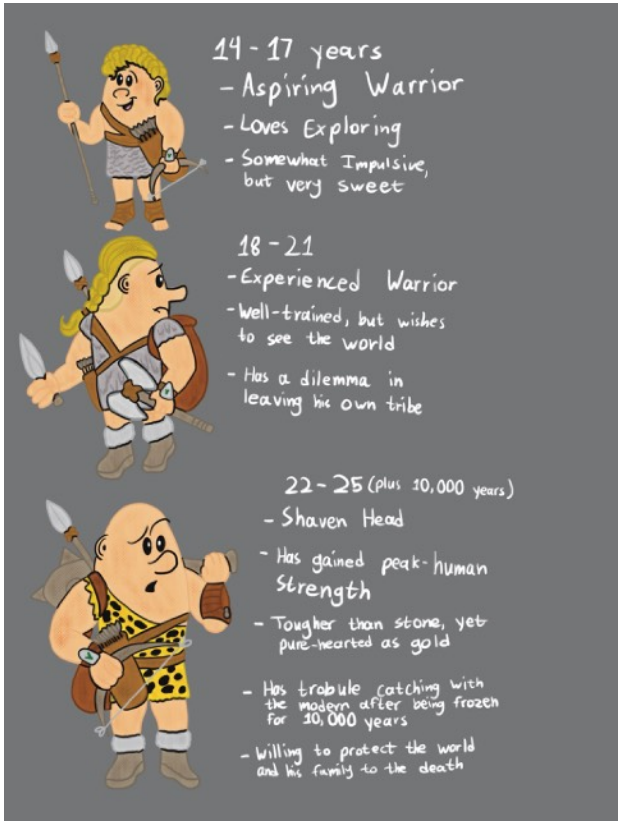
Regarding Dr. Destructo, Bleep's nemesis, the former was the hardest to draw as I struggled to find the perfect redesign. The one I preferred the best for the criminal was a black cloak and hood with black armor and silvery armored gloves, and his eyes glowing as red as the Devil. Not only did it make him more terrifying to the eye, but he was also more of a malicious and heartless villain who wasn't afraid to kill or destroy anything that got in his way.

Dr. Destructo's Earlier Armor (2023, Made in Procreate)

Dr. Destructo's Design Choices (2022, Made in Procreate)

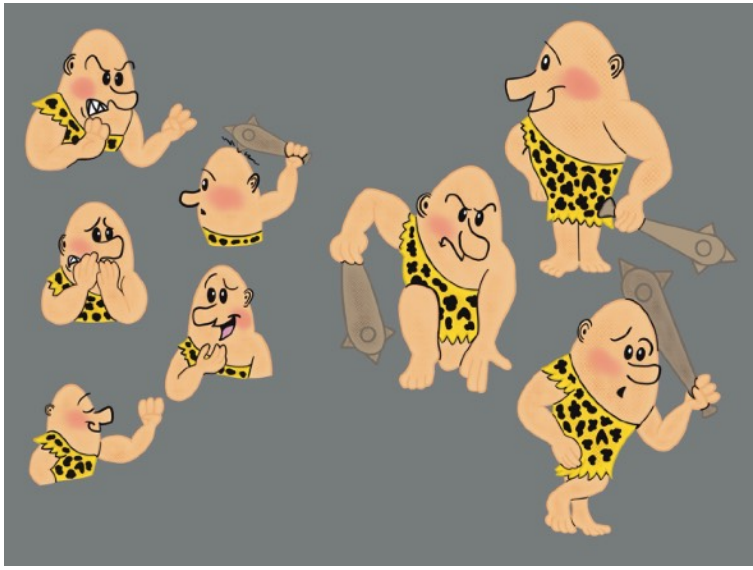
Dr. Destructo's Facial Expressions and Poses (2023, Made in Procreate)

Scratch was genuinely the most straightforward character to redesign. He didn't receive many changes besides a more muscular build, softer edges (depicting his inner softness), and additional weapons to carry and fight for wherever he went.


14 - 17 years
- Aspiring Warrior
- Loves Exploring
- Somewhat Impulsive, but very sweet
18 - 21
- Experienced Warrior
- Well-trained, but wishes to see the world
- Has a dilemma in leaving his own tribe
22 - 25 (plus 10,000 years)
- Shaven Head
- Has gained peak-human strength
- Tougher than stone, yet pure-hearted as gold
- Has trabule catching with the modern after being frozen for 10,000 years
- Willing to protect the world and his family to the death

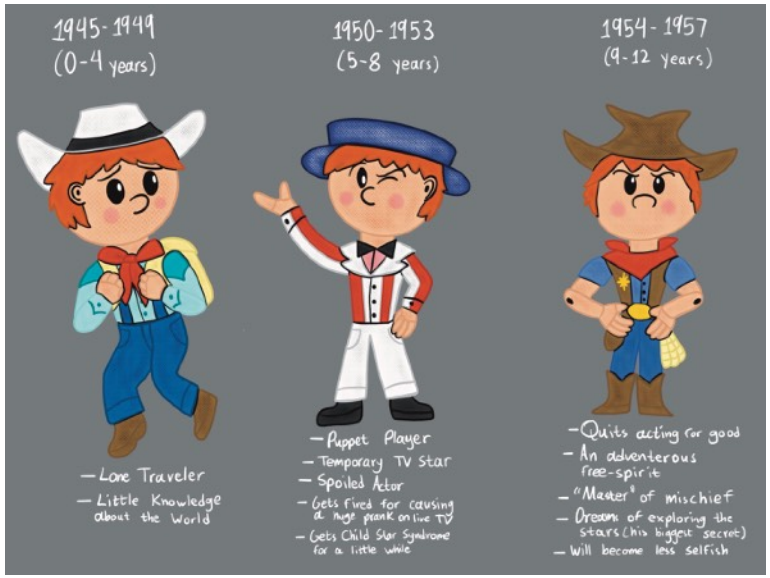
Scratch's Age Chart (2022, Made in Procreate)

Scratch's Design Choices (2022, Made in Procreate)

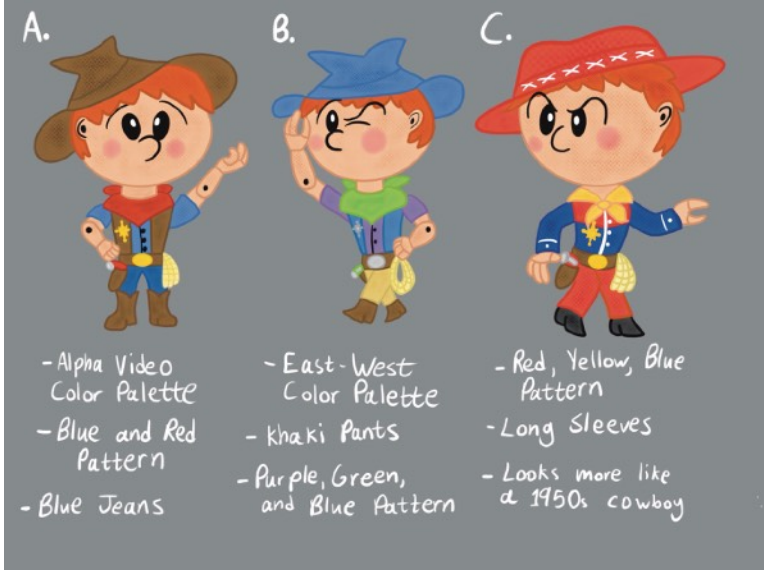


Scratch's Facial Expressions and Poses (2022, Made in Procreate)

Moving on to Squeak, this little puppet needed drastic changes since, in the cartoon, he resembles more of a simple paper doll than a wooden marionette. He is also given a colorful Western getup, representing his presence in the 1950s and his cheerful, reckless, and adventurous personality.


1945-1949
(0-4 years)
- Lone Traveler
- Little Knowledge about the World
1950-1953
(5-8 years)
- Puppet Player
- Temporary TV Star
- Spoiled Actor
- Gets fired for causing a huge prank on live TV
- Gets Child Star Syndrome for a little while
1954-1957
(9-12 years)
- Quits acting for good
- An adventerous free-spirit
- "Master" of mischief
- Dreams of exploring the stars (his biggest secret)
- Will become less selfish

Squeak's Age Chart (2022, Made in Procreate)



Squeak's Design Choices (2022, Made in Procreate)

Squeak's Facial Expressions and Poses (2022, Made in Procreate)

In addition to redesigns and facial expression sheets, I wanted to analyze how each character interacted with each other. Since Bleep is the protagonist, I mainly focused on his chemistry with others.

1. Colonel Bleep and Squeak

When they first get to know each other, Bleep and Squeak appear to be opposites. Squeak finds Bleep to be too serious against the puppet's free-spirited nature, while Bleep finds Squeak's recklessness to contrast the spaceman's cautious and strict demeanor. Eventually, the two find common ground as they maintain a clever, bright, adventurous, and curious nature. Ultimately, Bleep will grow to love and protect Squeak like a son, while Squeak will start to look up to Bleep like a father and true hero.

2. Colonel Bleep and Scratch

Scratch is Bleep's first human contact when he approaches Earth, while Scratch would never believe that an alien from other worlds like Colonel Bleep could exist in real life or fiction until now. The two quickly build an unbreakable bond with the spaceman, depending on Scratch's incredible strength and physical endurance, while the cave dweller can depend on Bleep's intelligence and strategy.

3. Squeak and Scratch

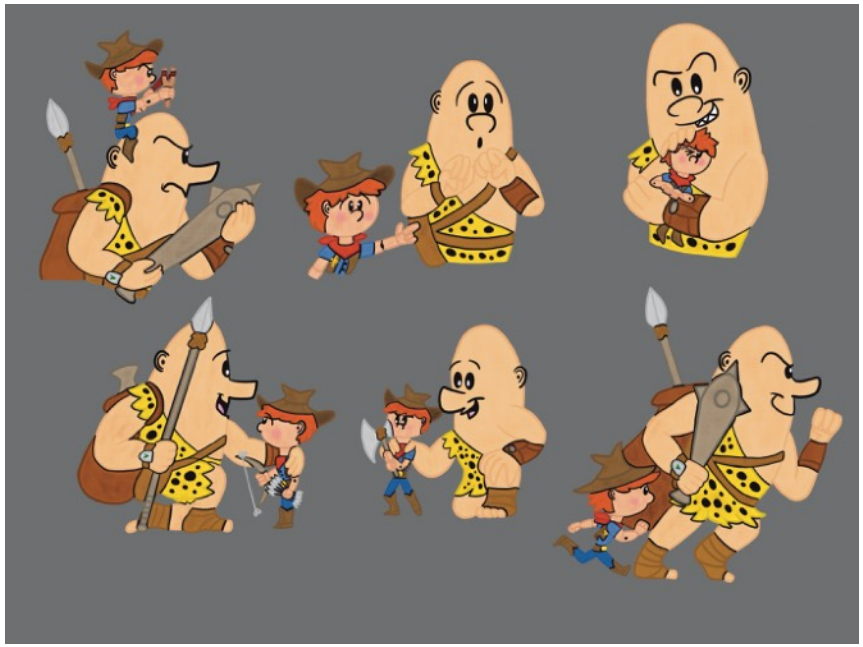
Even though Scratch, the caveman, doesn't know much about the contemporary world, he does learn one thing: Squeak, the puppet, becomes his favorite friend and sees him like a younger brother. After spending most of his life alone, Squeak suddenly discovers Scratch as the ideal brawn for his intelligence. Scratch teaches Squeak to be a fearless warrior like Colonel Bleep and himself, even though Squeak teaches him a little about the contemporary world.

4. Colonel Bleep and Dr. Destructo

Colonel Bleep will encounter the dreadful Dr. Destructo on his voyage to Earth. Dr. Destructo had a long list of crimes, including murder, witchcraft, and thievery for valuable weapons and artifacts. Bleep has advanced in his space ranger career but hasn't yet faced an adversary who can outwit him with his cunning and magic abilities. Col. Bleep will soon suffer from trauma and weakness as Destructo threatens him for the worse. In other words, unless Bleep can overcome his fear, execute justice, and face Destructo for his wrongdoing.

Colonel Bleep and Squeak (2023, Made in Procreate)

Colonel Bleep and Scratch (2023, Made in Procreate)



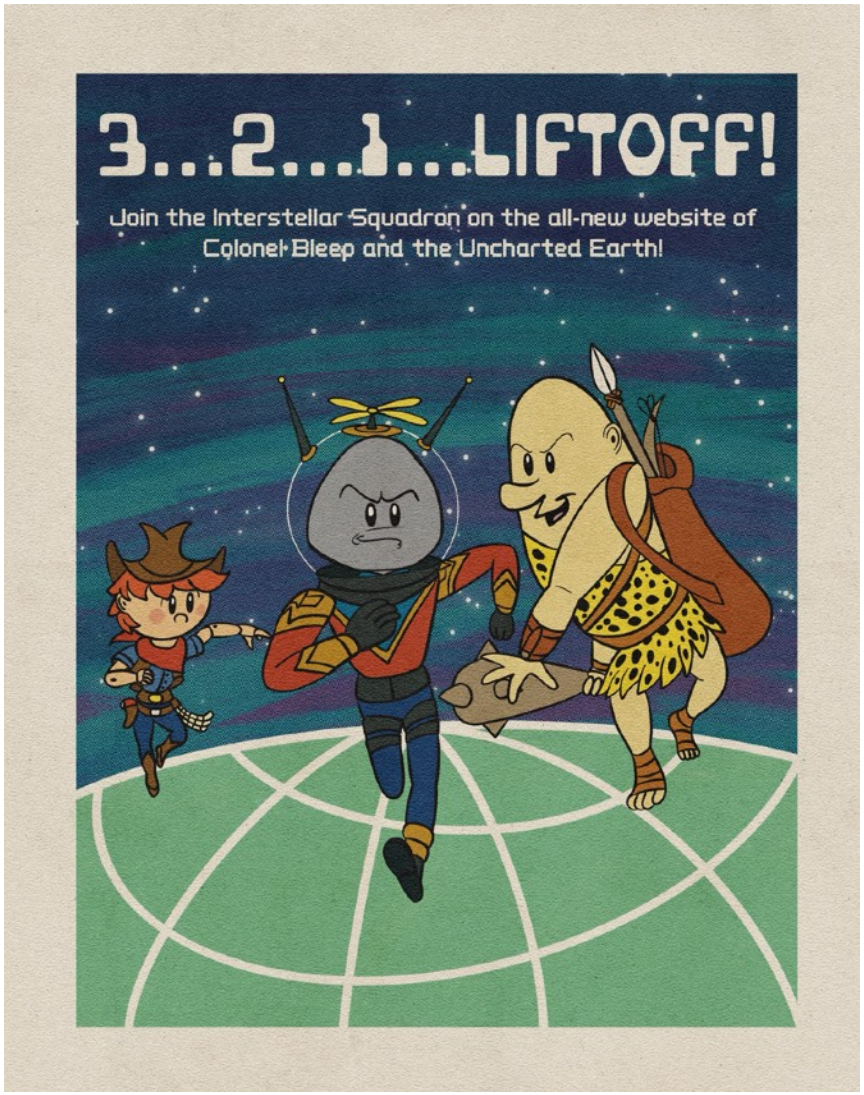
Squeak and Scratch (2023, Made in Procreate)

Colonel Bleep and Dr. Destructo (2023, Made in Procreate)

Another array of images in the following few pages is promotional material, including a cover for what could've been the novel for *Colonel Bleep and the Uncharted Earth*.

In the long run, modernizing Colonel Bleep is the key to restoring the show's recognition worldwide and making it a crucial part of animation history, not to be neglected forever. It also visualizes the journey of reviving a forgotten classic and turning it into something fresh and dynamic while respecting the predecessor's highlights, flaws, and beauty.

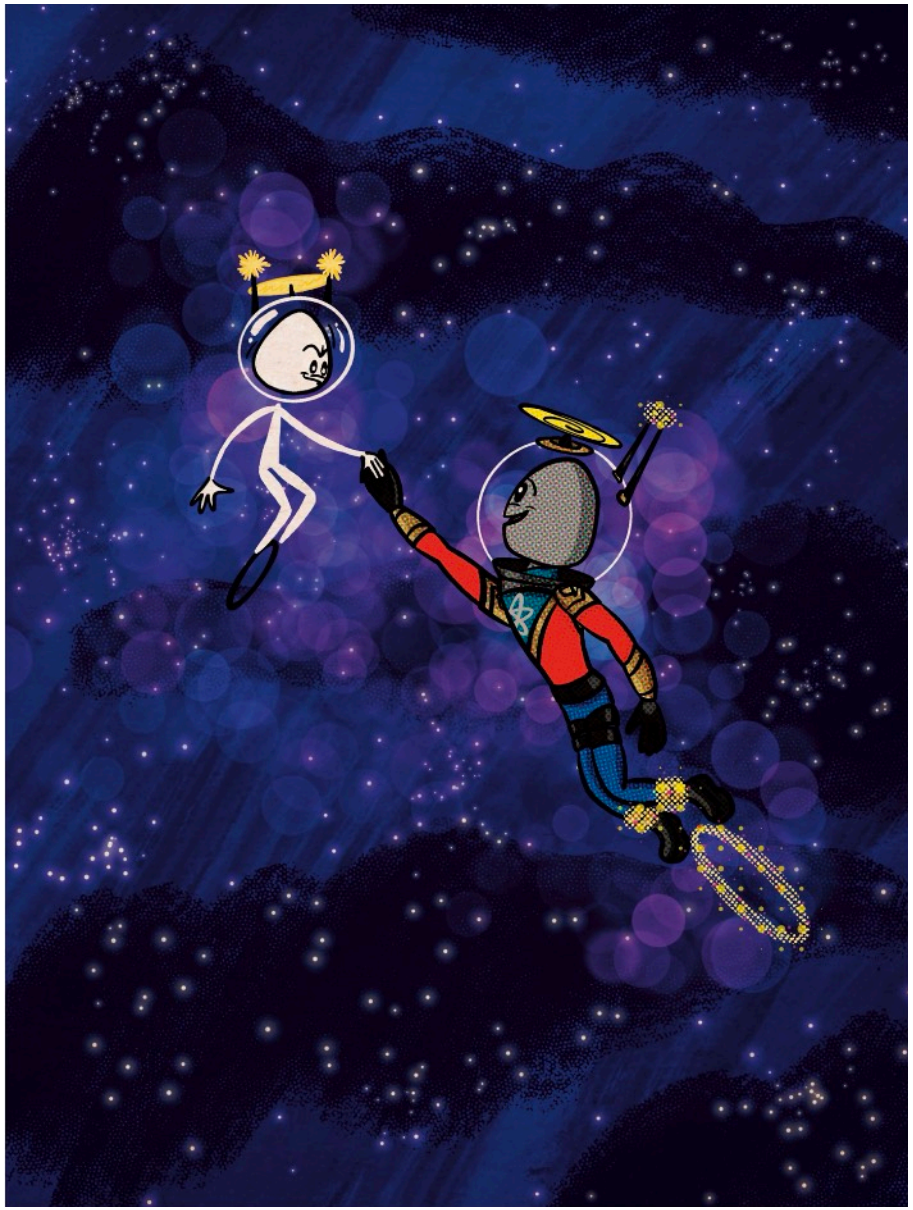
Year of the Dragon Poster (2024, Made in Procreate)



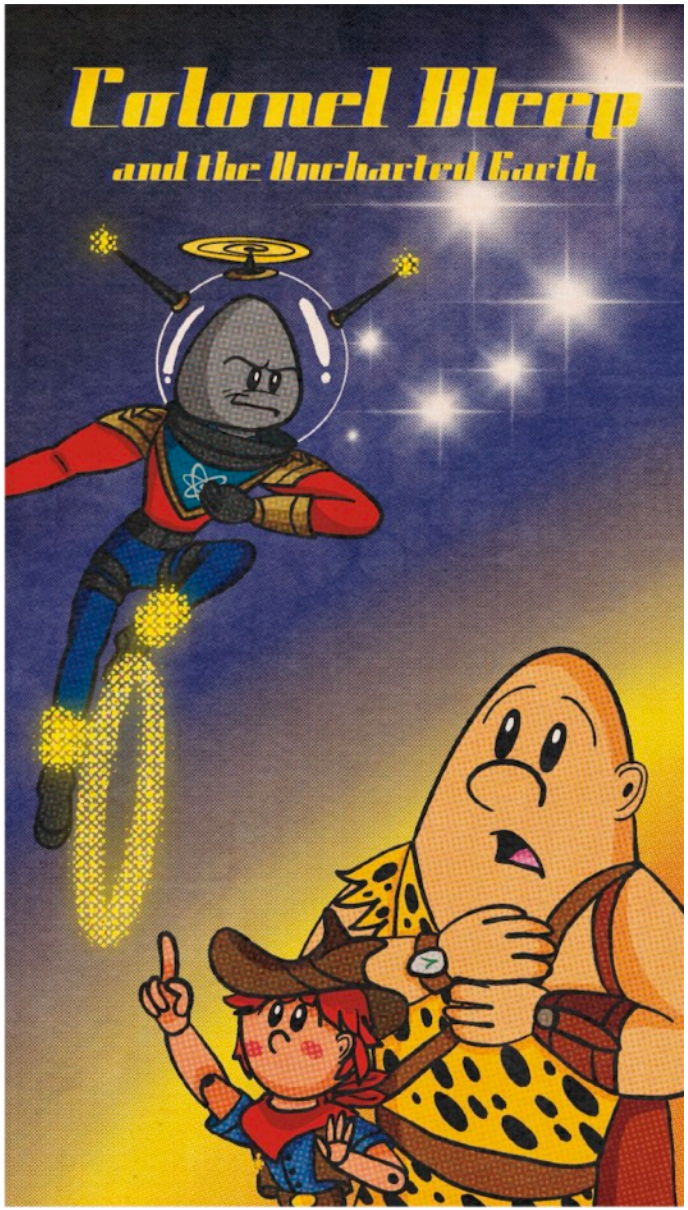
Website Promo Poster (2024, Made in Procreate)

Every hero has a beginning...
(2024, Made in Procreate)

Touch the Earth (2023, Made in Procreate)



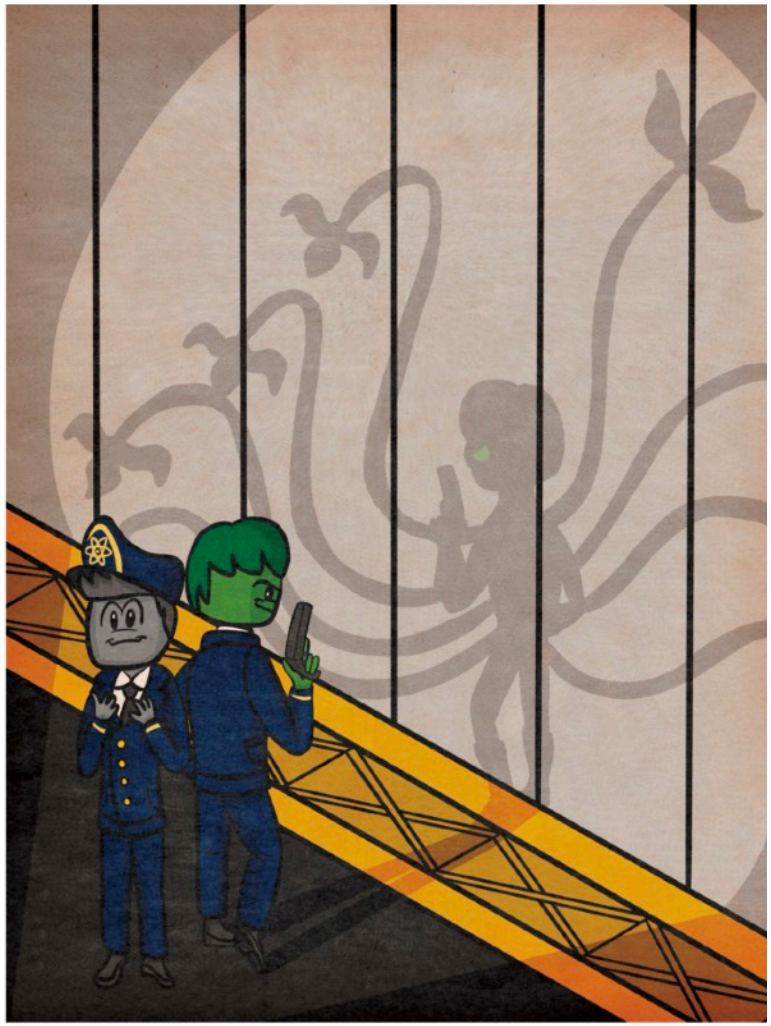
Classic Bleep and Modern Bleep (2024, Made in Procreate)



Streamline Cover Remake (2024, Made in Procreate)

Stand By for the Rebirth of a Forgotten Legend!
Colonel Bleep
and the Uncharted Earth
A Raygun Gothic Adventure with a COLORFUL Twist!
The Radiant Galaxy

Official Series Poster (2024, Made in Procreate)



The Spaceman's Beginning (Part One) Teaser Art (2024, Made in Procreate)

Colonel Bleep and the Test Theme Thumbnail (2024, Made in Procreate)

Every hero has a beginning. In each of these beginnings, heroes confront moments of pleasure, pain, and growth that shape their journey toward greatness.

SCREENPLAY FOR COLONEL BLEEP AND THE TEST THEME

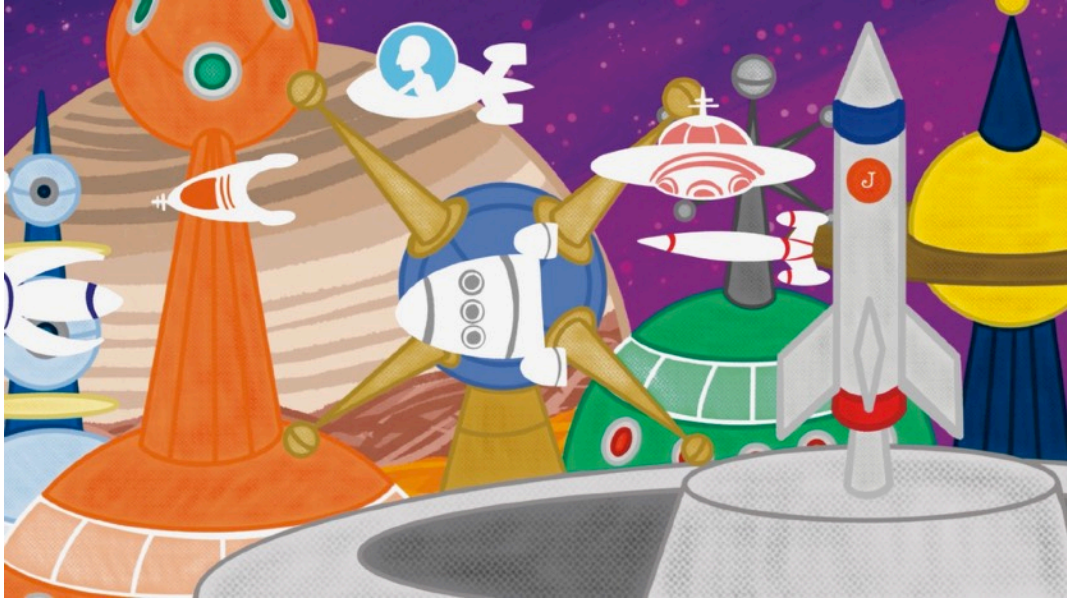
Our pilot begins with a sequence of numerous spacecraft soaring across outer space.

NARRATOR
Since the beginning, intelligent lifeforms have always wondered what lies beyond our universe, even exploring its wonders. Some have explored parts of space for countless centuries, others for only a split second.

Enter **LUCIUS MORNINGSTAR!**

NARRATOR
Lucius Morningstar, one of the thousands of space explorers from planet Futura, dared to venture into the cosmic unknown.

We soon enter a secret laboratory of numerous scientists experimenting on pre-born children, given strange abilities within their DNA. Police officers attempt to arrest the lab workers later on while a married couple tries to escape with their son locked in a capsule.



NARRATOR

Before birth, Lucius, along with several other children, was created in an illegal operation known as Project Streamline: an experiment to create genetically enhanced futurians. However, shortly after they were born, the police arrested the scientists involved in the operation. Meanwhile, Lucius's parents tried to escape with their child in hand, but during their getaway on the road…

CRASH! Their car jolts directly into a tree, thus killing the couple.

NARRATOR

…a terrible accident took their lives.

The police arrive in time to investigate the crash, but they see that the couple is dying. All that was left was the capsule protecting their baby.

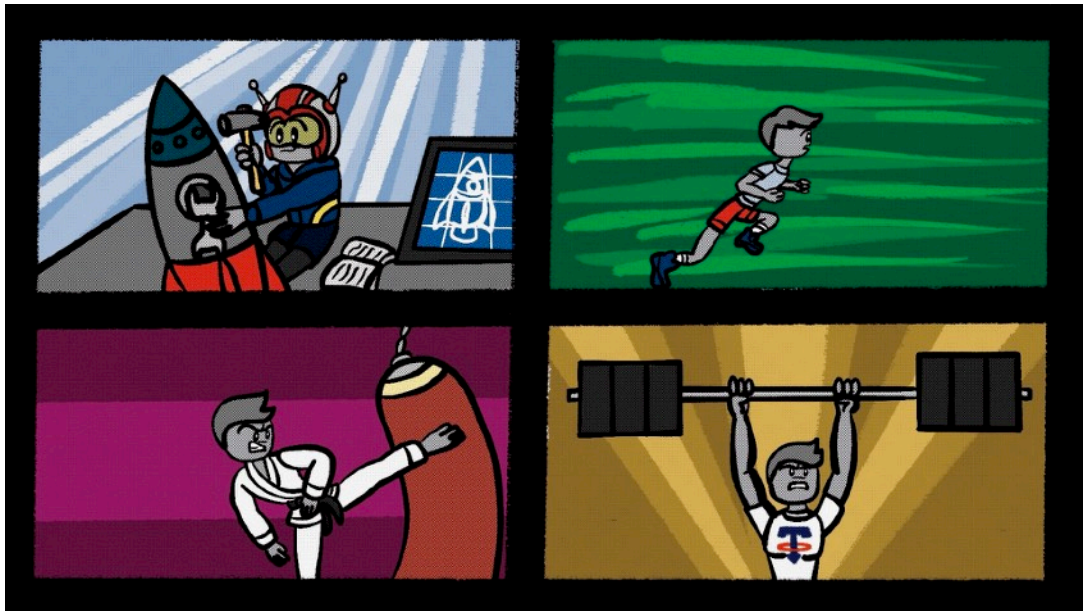
NARRATOR

Only their son survived the car wreck.

Eventually, they send the newborn boy to a home for foster children. **LUCIUS** would remain there for the rest of his childhood, learning to maneuver his supernatural genes.

NARRATOR

So Lucius was taken to a foster home in a remote town where he could have a normal childhood. But as he grew, so did his incredible enhancements.



Many years later, **LUCIUS** first approached the Futura High Command Academy and eventually the Futura High Command Headquarters.

NARRATOR

Coming of age, Lucius decides to use his gifts to pursue a career as a space ranger. He started as a cadet with five years of training and was granted an interplanetary intelligent agent at Futura High Command.

45-year-old **LUCIUS** suits up as **COL. BLEEP**, unafraid to reveal his genetic enhancements!

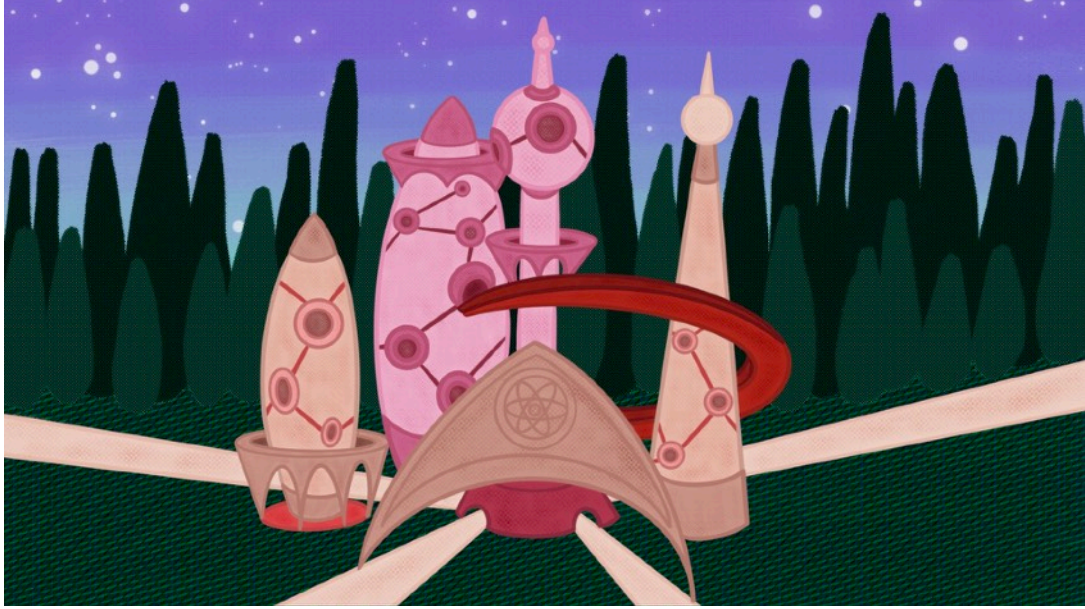
NARRATOR

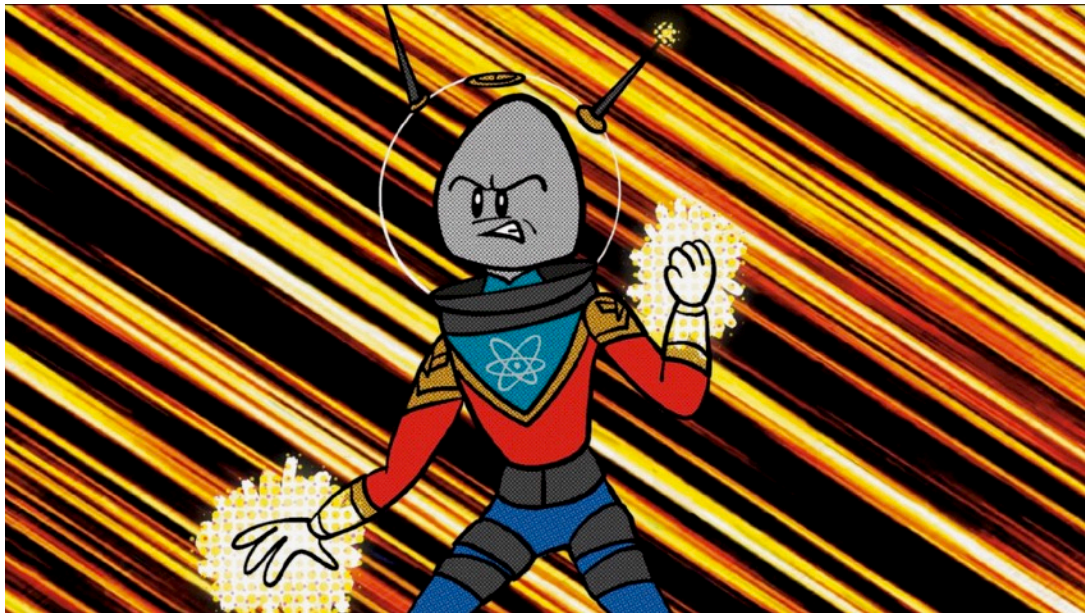
*As he prepares to investigate disturbances across the universe, Lucius Morningstar assumes the extraordinary identity of **Colonel Bleep**! Unafraid to reveal his powers, Bleep can defy boundaries with his strength, agility, speed, and, his most potent enhancement, his intelligence.*

Instantly, **COL. BLEEP** reveals his power of the future: futomic energy!

NARRATOR

In addition to his super soldier abilities, Bleep is given the power to harness futomic energy. With this power, Bleep can create intense blasts of power from his fingertips, generate light and heat, construct objects made of metal, and soar to great heights via futomic speed.





We witness one more sequence of **COL. BLEEP** fighting and bringing justice during his intergalactic adventures.

NARRATOR

Now, in a cosmic crusade of a lifetime, Colonel Bleep will travel up, down, backward, or forwards in distance and time. He shall face danger and embrace battles between life and death while trying to maintain truth and justice throughout the vast galaxies of the universe. So here he is, the eccentrical Colonel Bleep: ***Space Man of the Future!***

Title Card: **COLONEL BLEEP**

CREDITS AND REFERENCES

Episodes of Colonel Bleep

1. Col. Bleep's Arrival on Earth (1956)
2. War in Robot Land (1957)
3. Winner Take All (1957)
4. The Malicious Mailman (1957)
5. The Treacherous Trio (1957)
6. Squeak and the Terrible Termite (1956)
7. The Falling Star (1957)
8. Nightmare (1957)

Websites with other Imagery (not by me)

Cartoon Research

Colonel Bleep Wiki on Fandom

Patrick Owsley: Cartoon Art and More! on Blogspot

Platforms featuring my own images

colonel-bleep-the-series.mozellosite.com

Procreate Folio (The Radiant Galaxy22)

Bluesky and Tumblr (@colonelbleep57)

Mastodon and Pixelfed (@colonelbleep1957)

Recommended Reading

"Building Zero-Zero Island"

Author: Ziggy Cashmere

Date: July 30, 2024

Site: ziggycashmere.substack.com

"The Colonel Bleep Show"

Author: Jerry Beck

Date: September 12, 2018

Site: cartoonresearch.com

"Can't Wait till Monday Morning: Syndication in Broadcasting"

Author: Marvin A. Kempner

Publisher: Rivercross Publishing Inc.

Date: 1998

Pages: 57-67

Site: archive.org

Recommended Reading (Continued)

"The Legacy of Jack Schleh: Colonel Bleep: TV's First Animated Space Ace."

Author: Carl Cohen

Magazine: Wild Cartoon Kingdom (Issue 2)

Publisher: Larry Flynt Publications

Date: 1993

Pages: 6-7

Site: archive.org

"Streamline Pictures - Part 3"

Author: Charles Brubaker

Date: May 3, 2015

Site: cartoonresearch.com

Recommended Videos

“Colonel Bleep and the Test Theme”

Creator: Grace Taboada

Platforms: PeerTube and Internet Archive

Channel (PeerTube): The Radiant Galaxy22

Profile (Internet Archive): Galaxy22872

“Television’s First (and Lost) Color Cartoon”

Creator: Ziggy Cashmere

Platform: YouTube

Channel: Ok so...

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, I want to thank my family and teachers from high school to college for encouraging me to continue working on this passion project.

I also want to thank the members of the Colonel Bleep Wiki for being a vital influence in remaking the series. Without them, this wouldn't have been possible.

Regarding the book in general, I want to thank Ziggy Cashmere and the Texas Tech Undergraduate Writing Center for helping me identify any tweaks and other areas for improvement.

Lastly, to all the readers who just discovered the cartoon from this book, I hope you will someday contribute to Colonel Bleep's ongoing renaissance.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Grace Susana Taboada was born in San Antonio, Texas on May 15, 2003. She discovered her talent for art at age three and writing at age seven. She spent most of her childhood taking art classes in and out of school. At age 15, Taboada started posting her art on social media. She has since published her traditional and digital art on Procreate Folio, Pinterest, Tumblr, and Bluesky.

When not making art or writing, Taboada may be studying, surfing the internet, watching animated media, serving the community, or spending time with her friends and family. Her hometown is Richardson, Texas (north of Dallas), and she is an undergraduate student at Texas Tech University pursuing a BFA in Studio Art–Transmedia.

This is her first published book.

To learn more about Taboada's work, please visit her official website at the-radiant-galaxy.mozello.sites.com.

But how could one artist, so young yet determined, be the one to revive one of the most obscure cartoons in history?

How could it be possible to turn a simple-looking alien into a fully-fledged character?

Discover the complicated history of the series, the colorful artwork (old and new), and the plans for a modernized retelling, and you'll soon realize how much Colonel Bleep is worth reviving.

Sometimes, history and works of fiction can be discovered in the most unusual places.

In a time when space exploration was new and countless innovations were springing to life, there came Colonel Bleep, a sci-fi animated series that would change the course of color television.

Despite its historical impact, the show has been mostly forgotten and never retold to a modern generation of audiences...until now.